

Message Text

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46

ACTION OES-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6779

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 1422

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TSPA UR TPHY

SUBJECT: OPTICAL ASTROPHYSICAL EXPERIMENTS IN SALYUT-4

1. IN A JANUARY 29 ARTICLE IN PRAVDA ACADEMICIAN SEVERNYY DISCUSSES OPTICAL EXPERIMENTS CARRIED OUT ON BOARD SALYUT-4 TO OBSERVE SPECTROSCOPICALLY SOLAR FLARES. HE EXPLAINS IN DETAIL THE NEED OF MANUAL POSITIONING OF THE SOLAR FLARE IMAGE ONTO THE ENTRANCE SLIT OF THE SPECTROGRAPH AND STATES THAT THE STABILIZING MIRROR MECHANISM IN SALYUT-4 IS AN IMPROVMENT OVER INSTRUMENTATION USED IN SKYLAB.

2. THE INSTRUMENT WAS BUILT IN THE CRIMEAN ASTROPHYSICAL OBSERVATORY OF THE USSR ACADEMY OF SCIENCES HEADED BY A.V. BRUNS. THE PRICIPAL SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATOR IS DR. N.V. STESHENKO.

3. INFORMATION ON THE SPECTRAL REGION IS VAGUE. IT MENTIONS FAR (DALEKOGO) U.V. RADIATION.

4. OTHER EXPERIMENTS USING X-RAY SPECTRA, AND SPECTRAL ANALYSIS OF DIATOMIC MOLECULES ARE DISCUSSED IN A JANUARY 30 PRAVDA ARTICLE WHICH MENTIONS A SPECIAL CRYOSTAT KT-4 BUILT IN THE KHARKOV PHYSICO-TECHNICAL INSTITUTE FOR LOW TEMPERATURES.

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5. IN OTHER INSTANCES SALYUT-4 ARTICLES HAVE

STRESSED THE WORD "FIRST" AND THE UNPRECEDENTED
NATURE OF THE SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITY OF THE COSMONAUTS.

6. APPRECIATE COMMENTS FROM NASA ON RELATIONSHIP
OF SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITY ON SALYUT-4 TO PLANNED
ASTP MISSION.

7. EMBASSY WOULD LIKE TO KNOW IF THERE IS OVERLAP
WITH MA-083 AND MA-059 AND WHETHER NASA BEING
KEPT INFORMED BY INTERKOSMOS.
MATLOCK

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NNN

Message Attributes

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